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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 27 | Min 21 | Humidity 73% Light rain Sensex 80,220 | Nifty 24,472 | Gold 78,400 | Silver 99,142 | Dollar 84.08 | Euro 90.93 | GBP 108.95

DEJA VU HOUSES FLOODED, STREETS INUNDATED

ELEGY, for a city of lakes

What urban planning disaster has brought the city to brink of disaster with 33 mm of rain? We take a close look at the mistakes made or shall we say criminal negligence?

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Bengaluru is no stranger to heavy rains and flooding, but October rain brought a stark reality to light. In the previous years, only certain parts of the city would flood, with affected areas varying based on rainfall intensity. However, the recent monsoon has exposed the city's vulnerabilities like never before. Many areas are experiencing severe inundation, with streets resembling streams. This raises a pressing question: Does Bengaluru's infrastructure require an immediate and thorough overhaul?

Shiva Kumar, a civic activist, said, "Every year, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) officials assure citizens that the city is fully prepared for the monsoon, yet the story repeats itself.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

PIC: KAUSHIK JN

> "At the heart of the city's persistent flooding issues lies the unchecked encroachment of stormwater drains and inadequate infrastructure maintenance. The BBMP has promised to clear these encroachments, but progress has been slow — Divya K, urban planner

PAGES 6&7

North Bengaluru worst-hit
Disaster Response Forces deployed to evacuate stranded individuals from apartment complexes in coracles

Cast away
1,030 homes in Yelahanka zone affected over past few days of rain, around 600 families asked to temporarily relocate

Lakes spill over
5 lakes in south, 6 in RR Nagar, 6 in Yelahanka, and 3 in Dasarahalli zones fill up and overflow into residential localities

TRAGEDY STRIKES
Search operation on for siblings said to have gone missing in Kengeri Lake; 1 labourer dead, 5 missing in building collapse amid rain

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Art spectacle

Art Houz presents Memento Mori, a solo art exhibition by acclaimed artist and actor Nikil Inaya. This exhibition showcases a collection of new paintings and works on paper, paying homage to Inaya's grandmother, Shanthanayaki Balasubramanian, whose influence profoundly shaped his artistic journey. The Latin phrase Memento Mori—"remember you must die"—serves as the central theme of this exhibition. Through a series of greyscale portraits, Nikil Inaya explores the fragility of life, using visual symbolism to evoke deeper meaning. Each piece, reminiscent of a pictorial sonnet, reflects on themes of mortality, tradition, and memory.
Where: Art Houz Art Gallery, Vasanth Nagar; When: October 25-29, 10 am to 12 pm

02 Light it up

Join for an enchanting evening of celebration - Light It Up, where we blend the vibrant spirit of Diwali with the infectious energy of Bollywood music. Set against the backdrop of the poolside at Taj MG Road, have your night illuminated. Dance the night away to electrifying Bollywood beats, as DJs spin the perfect soundtrack to elevate your spirits, and bring out the Bollywood lover in you.
Where: Seven Rivers, Taj MG Road; When: October 26, 8 pm

03 Diwali Mela

Mega Diwali Handloom Mela organised by Maaruthi Enterprises is an exhibition cum sale that brings together rural artisans from the eastern part of India featuring vast collections of cotton and silk handlooms; handicrafts Orissa tie; dye, dress material & Orissa sarees, West Bengal cotton sarees and many more. The variety of Rajasthan handicrafts and handlooms includes blue paving from Uttar Pradesh, Kurja paving, Sharanpur Wood carvings, and many more. **Where: Devaki Ananda Suvarna Convention Hall, Bannerghatta Road; When: Oct 21-30, 10am to 9pm**

Rising virtual autism cases among children post-COVID

Mimicking symptoms of traditional autism, virtual autism is linked to overuse of mobile phones and tablets

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Following the COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a noticeable rise in cases of "virtual autism" among children under the age of three. While traditional autism is typically linked to biological development, this new trend of virtual autism is associated with the overuse of mobile phones, tablets, and other gadgets.

Gadget impact

Experts said that despite recommendations against exposing children under two years to mobile devices, parents are increasingly relying on gadgets to manage their children's feeding, sleeping, and play routines. This has resulted in many children between six months and three years old becoming addicted to screens. Instead of learning their native language, these children often imitate sounds from cartoons, further delaying their language development. If gadgets are taken away, children tend to display aggressive behaviour—screaming, throwing objects, or becoming restless.

Importance of early intervention

Psychologists stress that early intervention is crucial for addressing developmental delays. Speech therapy and clinical psychological support should be sought without hesitation if parents observe any concerning signs. The earlier parents intervene, the better the outcome for both the child and the family. Experts also recommend that developmental issues in children be identified by the age of eight. These could include problems with vision, hearing, or sensory perception, which may require specific attention. Psychologists have also observed that children are increasingly using their thumbs and fingers excessively—likely due to constant mobile use—a concerning trend that could have long-term implications.

Managing screen time

To help manage screen time, parents can use digital well-being apps to track how much time their children spend on mobile devices daily or weekly.

In terms of alternatives, parents are encouraged to create offline entertainment options for their children. Outdoor play, storytelling, or limited-time offline video content are all healthier options. For working parents or single parents, pre-downloaded content on laptops could provide controlled screen time without internet access.

When it comes to mobile usage among children, specific guidelines should be followed to ensure their healthy development. For children under the age of two, it is recommended that there be no exposure to mobile devices or gadgets at all. For those between the ages of two and four years, screen time should be limited to one hour per day, always under parental supervision. As children grow older, from ages five to ten, their screen time can be extended to two hours per day. For teenagers aged 12 to 18, parents should maintain oversight to prevent access to inappropriate content, ensuring that their online experiences are safe and age-appropriate.

Post-pandemic internet addiction

Krishna Kumar, a psychiatrist said, "Internet addiction has surged since the pandemic, affecting both children and adults. Lack of focus and reduced attention spans are becoming a widespread issue. In this context, parents must remain vigilant to prevent young children from becoming victims of virtual autism, which mimics the symptoms of traditional autism. Daily social interaction and communication are key to a child's development, and parents must ensure that their children engage with the world around them, not just through screens." He also added that eye contact and social interaction are critical for language development in children. Regular communication can significantly aid children in learning their mother tongue and understanding their surroundings.

Experts warn this excessive screen time not only causes developmental delays but also affects children's overall health

Protest against felicitation of Gauri murder suspects

Social activists and citizens organised a protest against the felicitation of Gauri Lankesh's murder suspects by certain organisations in Vijayapura after their release on bail.

Gauri Lankesh, the editor of the Kannada tabloid "Gauri Lankesh Patrike," was shot dead by motorcycle-borne assailants outside her Bengaluru home on September 5, 2017.

Following the viral circulation of a video on social media last week showing right-wing activists enthusiastically welcoming the two accused while chanting "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" and "Sanatana Dharma Ki Jai," civil rights groups staged protests.

The State government will register a case against those who felicitated two persons accused of the murder of Gauri Lankesh, Minister MB Patil said on October 15, after deeming the felicitation a heinous act. Some Hindutva activists, including Sri Ram Sene (SRS) members, felicitated the accused, after their release on bail, at Kalika temple in Vijayapura. SRS members told reporters that the two were falsely charged with the offence.

Protestors noted that even though the accused have received bail, they are still not free of charges. They alleged that Sangh Parivar had indirectly admitted to the murder of Gauri by honouring the accused and called for a speedy trial. Six years after their arrest, the special court for organised crime-related cases granted bail to Waghmore, Edave, and Rajesh Bangera on October 9, against a surety bond. They were subsequently permitted to visit their hometown. When the accused arrived in Vijayapura, offered prayers at a Kalika temple, and paid homage to a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji, right-wing groups welcomed them with garlands. **— BMB**

Social activists and citizens organised a protest against the felicitation of Gauri Lankesh's murder suspects

CCB rescues 12 girls, busts trafficking ring

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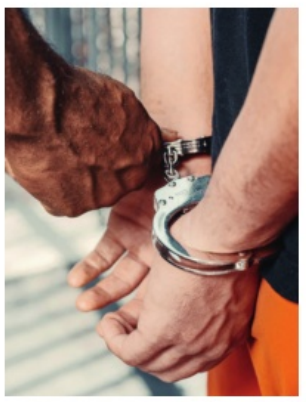

The Women Protection Wing of the Central Crime Branch (CCB) along with city-based NGOs rescued 12 minor girls from a prostitution racket over the past six months. The victims, aged between 14 and 17, hail from various parts of the country, including Tripura, West Bengal, Punjab, Maharashtra, and Karnataka, along with three girls from Bangladesh, according to City Police Commissioner B Dayananda.

Rescue operations began in May, following intelligence inputs that led to multiple raids in the city. Authorities arrested 26 individuals involved in the racket and three customers, charging them under the Prevention of Immoral Traffic Act and for human trafficking.

The rescued girls have been sent to state-run centres for counselling and rehabilitation. Investigations revealed that many victims were lured to the city with the promise of decent jobs, only to be forced into the flesh trade. The three victims from Bangladesh were smuggled into the city through an agent who helped them cross porous borders. Authorities are probing the broader network involved in the trafficking.

MDMA seized, three arrested

In a significant operation, the Central Crime Branch (CCB) Narcotics Squad arrested three foreign nationals involved in drug peddling and seized MDMA crystals worth ₹9 lakh from their possession. The raid, conducted under the Kadugodi police station limits, resulted in the recovery of 82 grams of MDMA crystals, three mobile phones, an electronic weighing machine, and other items used in the crime.

The operation was initiated after the CCB Anti-Narcotics team received specific information from an informant about the sale of MDMA crystals in a house in Kadugodi. Acting on this tip, the CCB Narcotics Squad swiftly raided the premises, arresting the three foreign nationals, who had come to Bengaluru from Delhi on medical and tourist visas.

Investigations revealed that the accused were African nationals, sourcing MDMA crystals at a low price from their African sources residing in Bengaluru and selling them to known customers and college students for prices ranging from ₹8,000 to ₹10,000 per gram.

A case has been registered against the accused at the Kadugodi police station, and further investigation is underway.

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HC seeks Darshan's medical records

The Karnataka High Court issued a notice to the State government on Tuesday regarding the bail petition submitted by Kannada actor Darshan Thoogdeep Srinivas, who was arrested in the Renukaswamy murder case.

Justice S Vishwajith Shetty, presiding over a single judge bench, instructed the prosecution to submit the actor's medical records. Additionally, the prosecution was ordered to present their statement of objection to the petition by the subsequent hearing date.

Senior Advocate C V Nagesh, representing Darshan, informed the court that the actor is suffering from a severe spinal condition. It was also mentioned that on Monday, October 21, medical examinations and tests were performed on him. In response, the court stated, "We will call for the medical reports and post the matter for further hearing on Monday."

The Sessions court denied the bail application submitted by Darshan and co-accused Pavitra Gowda on October 14.

Darshan was taken into custody on June 11, 2024, in connection with the Renukaswamy murder case and was remanded to judicial custody on June 22. The police recently submitted a chargesheet for the case. In a separate development, another co-accused, Keshavamurthy, was granted bail by the high court.

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Illegal banners finally cleared from skywalk

Pedestrians, motorists, and environmentalists appreciate Palike's actions but urge authorities to address deteriorating conditions affecting pedestrian safety on KG Road

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Illegal banners cleared from skywalk

Pedestrians, motorists, and environmentalists express their appreciation for Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) removal of banners at the skywalk on Kempegowda Road near Santosh Talkies. The banners, which were put up to convey greetings for the Dasara festival, have been taken down by the authorities.

Bangalore Mirror published a story titled "Banned hoardings pose safety risks on Bengaluru Skywalk" on October 21, detailing how the BBMP authorities and Upparpet Police have failed to prevent the illegal installation of banners and posters on the skywalk or to hold those responsible accountable. The story further emphasised how the BBMP has been dilly-dallying in making a decisive move to demolish the skywalk, which has become overrun with weeds and garbage, posing a significant safety risk to pedestrians.

Recently, GR Mohan, an advocate who filed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in the Honorable High Court, highlighted that the illegal banners and hoardings represent contempt of court. He asserted that the BBMP Chief Commissioner and the Bengaluru Commissioner of Police could be held in contempt of the High Court order for their inaction against those responsible for putting up the banners. Meanwhile, pedestrians, motorists, and environmentalists have welcomed the BBMP's initiative to remove the banners put up on the skywalk. "I hope the BBMP authorities decide without any delay to strengthen the existing skywalk or demolish it to construct a new one as the existing one is in a bad condition," said Purushotham, a pedestrian.

Bangalore Mirror
Flex hex
Skywalk creaks under weight of banned hoardings; BBMP, police don't care to do their job

BM reported on Oct 21 that skywalk is deteriorating and the authorities are delaying action to address it

> **"I hope BBMP decide without any delay to strengthen existing skywalk or demolish it to construct new one as existing one is in bad state** – Purushotham, pedestrian

Narayan P, a pedestrian, appreciates the BBMP authorities for removing the banners and posters but criticises them for the delay in demolishing the skywalk. He notes that the skywalk was constructed many years ago and is in desperate need of attention from the relevant authorities. "The skywalk has become a nuisance and an eyesore. The new skywalk will add value to the KG Road. I appeal to the BBMP authorities to construct a new skywalk for the benefit of pedestrians," said Narayan.

Arun Kumar BS of Santosh Talkies stated that he has already reported the poor condition of the skywalk to the BBMP authorities, but they have yet to take any action."I think that not many pedestrians are using the skywalk. It will be good if the authorities demolish it," said Arun Kumar.

Potholes, flooding, and darkness: New Airport Road's plight

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Road plagued by potholes

The New Airport Road, also known as Hennur-Bagalur Road, has become a nightmare for commuters, with water overflow, craters, potholes, and non-functional streetlights adding to the misery. The situation has deteriorated over the past week, leaving residents and commuters trapped in traffic jams that stretch for kilometres.

A resident shared their frustration and said, ' It has taken 1 hour to travel 1 km. I'm starting to feel like the authorities enjoy seeing citizens suffer. This situation could have been easily avoided if the roads were asphalted and drains put in order when the complaints had started back in July and August."

The chaos peaked when the road to the airport was temporarily closed beyond Kannur. "There was water flowing earlier, and now it's open again, but it's a mess," one commuter remarked. Flooding at the railway underpass near Agrahara and massive potholes near the Agrahara Xing signal have caused hours of traffic congestion. Several commuters reported being stuck for over an hour, with one stating, "I was trapped at Lingarajapuram for over an hour because BBMP has closed the 80 feet road HBR for white-topping." The deteriorating road condition, exacerbated by the ongoing rains, has been a longstanding issue. Another resident pointed out, "The roads have been damaged for over a year. There is never any traffic police near the bridge, and vehicles come in the opposite direction, causing further chaos. Ministers and ex-ministers use this road too, and I wonder how they travel on it. Why are heavy vehicles allowed on this stretch?"

> **"Roads have been damaged for over a year. There is never any traffic police near the bridge, and vehicles come in opposite direction, causing chaos** – Resident

Adding to the frustration, Bengaluru's local body elections have been pending for many years, leaving citizens without a representative to address these civic concerns. "With no corporators in place, there is no pressure group to get things done," a resident added

The Bengaluru Traffic Police carried out a temporary fix on Monday, but Tuesday's rains washed it away. Residents are now calling for a permanent solution. "Until a permanent fix is carried out by the BBMP, the road will remain in this terrible condition," said a concerned citizen.

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Drainage leak
CT Street

CT Street has been experiencing continuous drainage water leakage.

Narrow passage
Horamavu

Waterlogging near the Horamavu signal persists since October 8th, causing delays as the narrow, pothole-filled road allows only one vehicle at a time.

Drainage overflow
Banjara layout

In the Banjara Layout, drainage water overflows onto the road, worsening the damaged area near Kalkere. The traffic jam calls for urgent action from authorities.

Live by your rules

The 'Her Ride, Her Rules' event in Bengaluru celebrated empowered women who defy stereotypes, as around a team of bikers dressed in ethnic attire rode through the city

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The Bengaluru skies had been fickle until that morning, but as the 'Her Ride, Her Rules' event began, the sun emerged from behind the clouds, casting a warm glow on the city. It was as if nature itself was cheering on the women riders, supporting their cause and defying the unpredictability of the weather. Over 30 bikers, dressed in ethnic attire, rode through the heart of the city, showcasing the vital role empowered women—those who break stereotypes—play in advancing societal progress. The event, held at Phoenix Mall of Asia in Bengaluru on October 20, was organised by Hyderabad-based fashion brand Taruni in partnership with The Times of India and She for Society.

Flagging off the rally, Taruni's marketing manager, Urvashi Kingrani, described the event as a celebration of women who live life on their own terms.

"Today, we are incredibly proud to host 'Her Ride, Her Rules.' We believe femininity isn't defined by appearance or attire; it's a strength, a grace, and a quiet courage that every woman carries within her," Kingrani said. "The women bikers embody our spirit of strength, fearlessness, and the bold attitude to break norms. 'Her Ride, Her Rules' represents that freedom and choice. Today, we unite to honour this strength in every woman and to remind the world that every woman's story matters," she added, calling for a celebration of every woman who dares to be herself and inspires others to do the same.

THE CHANGEMAKERS

A panel discussion that followed the ride centred around the theme, 'Young Women as Catalysts for Change,' and featured prominent voices like Mala Dhawan, founder of A Hundred Hands; Harshini Venkatesh, founder and president of She for Society; Swapna Deepak, founder of Mystics Mind; and biker and traveller Anitha M. The discussion explored how young women today are playing a transformative role in shaping societal values and fostering sustainable practices.

Dhawan highlighted that India is in the midst of a rapid transition, and while the pace of urbanisation and modernisation is impressive, it also requires careful balance. She emphasised that young women are at the forefront of this change, leading the charge in promoting sustainability and conscious living, particularly through movements like thrifting and eco-friendly lifestyles.

"Young women are not only aware and conscious, but they also have control over the decisions they make in their lives," Dhawan said. She pointed out that India has a deep-rooted culture of sustainability, but rapid urbanisation has caused a disconnect. "Young women are trying to reconnect with these traditional practices and bring this culture back to the forefront," she added, noting that this generation is uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between modernity and sustainability.

The panel agreed that this wave of empowered, environmentally-conscious women could drive lasting change and inspire others to adopt more mindful, balanced lifestyles.

GET INVOLVED, GIRLS!

Swapna Deepak made a compelling call for greater involvement of young women in their communities to drive meaningful, large-scale impact. She expressed strong confidence in the current generation, emphasising that today's women are not only intelligent and capable but also fiercely independent and fearless in their approach to life and challenges.

"If young women get involved, they can create significant change," Deepak asserted, underscoring the potential of youth to influence societal shifts. However, she also pointed out the need for acceptance and inclusion of young people in these spaces. "The youth need to feel accepted and valued for their contributions," she added.

FUEL THE PASSION

Harshini Venkatesh emphasised the importance of young women believing in their own capabilities and staying deeply committed to their passions. She encouraged them to invest wholeheartedly in what they love and to stand by the choices they make, highlighting that personal fulfillment and confidence come from pursuing what truly inspires them.

"Passion is not just a driving force; it's a crucial ingredient for success," Venkatesh remarked. She stressed that when young women are fuelled by passion, they are more likely to achieve their goals and break through societal barriers. According to her, passion provides not only direction but also the perseverance needed to overcome obstacles and challenges along the way.

FIGHT IT OUT

Anitha addressed the challenges young women often face, offering insights on how to overcome them by drawing inspiration from real-life examples. She referred to the harrowing experience of a Spanish biker who was allegedly assaulted in Jharkhand but, despite the immense mental and emotional trauma, chose to complete her journey. Anitha praised the biker's resilience, emphasising that her story exemplified how inner strength and passion can help women rise above even the most difficult circumstances.

"Passion is what helps you break through all obstacles and shatter stereotypes," Anitha remarked, underscoring the transformative power of determination. She explained that much like shifting gears on a motorcycle, women have the ability to change their mindset and adapt to life's challenges with grace and grit. "Just as we adjust gears when riding, women can shift their perspectives, overcome hurdles, and continue moving forward," she added.

SUPPORT EACH OTHER

Dhawan highlighted the remarkable adaptability of young women, emphasising their drive to create positive change in today's world. She noted that this generation of women is not only embracing transformation but actively seeking it, pushing boundaries to improve societal norms and challenge outdated conventions. "Young women are incredibly adaptive—they aren't afraid to confront challenges head-on and seek change for the better," Dhawan remarked. She called on women to foster a culture of support and solidarity, stressing that the journey toward meaningful change becomes more impactful when women uplift one another.

ALMOST A CLOUDBURST: WHEN IT RAINS....IT POURS

Drenched, drowned in rain sorrow

With water overflowing from lakes, flooding of homes & layouts, building collapse, fatalities to filled & overflowing reservoirs, city is experiencing it all

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The intense rainfall has severely impacted the city. As multiple areas in the city remained inundated, five teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) were deployed to evacuate stranded individuals using coracles. Notably, the Kendriya Vihar complex in Yelahanka resembled a river with waist-deep water, causing public life in Northern Bengaluru to come to a standstill. Many residents chose to stay indoors, and numerous passengers missed flights, trains, and buses, while children were unable to attend school in the waterlogged areas. The residents were evacuated using boats after heavy rain caused significant waterlogging within the premises.

An NDRF official reported that between 2,000 and 3,000 individuals were trapped in one section of the complex, with an additional 200 to 300 people stranded in another area. "Three teams are currently on-site, and we've relieved one team to assist elsewhere," the official stated, noting that around 50 NDRF personnel were involved in the rescue operations.

The residents are expressing a pressing need for a permanent solution to the ongoing flooding issues. One resident with small children remarked, "We have been suffering for the past two weeks. A lasting solution is essential." Another echoed this sentiment, stating, "While we are relieved to have been rescued, it was an emergency response. We are still waiting for a long-term fix."

1,000+ homes flooded

Recent heavy rainfall has resulted in flooding of 1,030 homes in the Yelahanka zone. Various areas were affected in Vidyaranyapura, the Byatarayana subdivision, in the Yelahanka subdivision, and other areas.

Apartments & layouts affected

The collapse of the compound at Chitrakoot Apartment in Sahakara Nagar has caused sewage water from an adjacent storm drain to flood the apartment and three nearby roads. Kaiser Residency has also been affected, with water being removed using pumps. Additionally, the Ramanashree California Garden near Puttenahalli Lake has experienced flooding due to drainage overflow.

An official stated, "A drain needs to be constructed to divert the water, as Puttenahalli Lake is a protected bird sanctuary under the forest department. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) case regarding the drain's construction is scheduled for hearing on Friday. Currently, work is underway to install a Hume pipe along the lake's perimeter for drainage. Approximately 25 homes have been inundated, and the NDRF team is actively evacuating residents."

In the Mahadevapura zone, rainfall has been relatively low. However, heavy rain in Yelahanka has caused water from the Hebbal Valley to flow into Sai Baba Layout and Vaddarapalya, resulting in flooding. Efforts are ongoing to pump out water from affected homes and clear standing water from roads. Low-lying neighbourhoods like Byrathi Village and Blessing Garden have also experienced water ingress, prompting clearing operations. Additionally, flooding has been reported at Rainbow Drive Apartment and Junasandra due to overflow from Puttenahalli Lake.

In the Dasarahalli zone, Abbigere Lake has overflowed, resulting in flowing onto roads and flooding Saptagiri and Nisarga Layouts. Efforts to clear the water are underway, with most areas seeing progress except for Nisarga and Saptagiri Layouts.

Holiday, WFH advisory for today

The District Disaster Management Authority, headed by Bengaluru Urban Deputy Commissioner Jagadeesh G, has declared a holiday for all Anganwadi centres, as well as private and aided primary and high schools in all taluks of Bengaluru Urban district on Wednesday. However, there is no holiday declared for undergraduate, postgraduate, diploma, engineering, or ITI institutions. He has also advised compensating for the lost time by conducting extra classes on Saturday afternoons or Sundays.

The state government has issued an advisory to IT, BT, and private companies in Bengaluru to prioritise employee safety by allowing them to work from home on Wednesday.

Rain pours cold water over Brand Bengaluru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Flooding continues to disrupt daily life, leaving residents in distress. For instance, a mere 33 mm of rain on Sunday night was enough to submerge several areas. The damage from the rains has left citizens grappling with the aftermath, as the city's infrastructure buckles under the pressure."

Civic body officials often spring into action after floodwater enters homes, only to revert to inaction once the immediate crisis passes. While large sums of money are funneled into ambitious projects, the everyday struggles of Bengaluru's residents are met with neglect.

Encroachment & neglect

Divya K, an urban planner, pointed to the core cause of flooding. "At the heart of the city's persistent flooding issues lies the unchecked encroachment of stormwater drains and inadequate infrastructure maintenance. The expansion of buildings and other structures into natural water channels has reduced the capacity of stormwater drains, causing them to overflow even during mild rain. The BBMP has promised to clear these encroachments, but progress has been slow."

According to her, around 2,000 encroachments still remain untouched. "Allegations of political and influential pressure stalling the process raise the question if encroachment removal is being abandoned altogether. Adding to this is the inadequate de-silting of stormwater drains. While silt is removed, it is often left piled next to the drains, only to be washed back in with the next downpour. Though the BBMP is responsible for maintaining 860 km of stormwater drains, with 440 km contracted for annual silt removal, there is a glaring lack of transparency about how much work has been completed or where the silt is being disposed of," she said.

Maintenance gaps

There is also a lack of maintenance at city's stormwater drains. Sensors have been installed in 105 locations to monitor water levels and send alerts when the drains reach 75% capacity. However, these sensors have failed to provide timely warnings, leaving residents unprepared. Flood-prone areas continue to be submerged, with citizens left to fend for themselves, draining water from their homes overnight.

According to the Bengaluru Varunamitra portal, flooding is predominantly driven by human-induced factors. One of the key contributors is the lack of proper infrastructure planning, which, coupled with uncontrolled urbanisation, has put immense strain on the city's water management system. Encroachments into natural water bodies and habitats have aggravated the situation, as lakes and tanks are being converted into public and private layouts, disrupting the natural flow of water.

An official said the haphazard development of drainage systems has led to the reduction of the carrying capacity of drains due to siltation and encroachments, making them ineffective during heavy rains. The "live storage and recharge capacity of tanks have dwindled over time, limiting the city's ability to manage excess water. Dumping of solid waste into drains has caused severe blockages, exacerbating the flood risk," the official said.

Experts also point to the rise of urban heat islands, driven by climate change and microclimates, which disrupt the natural balance of the city's ecosystem. "All these issues have altered Bengaluru's water management system, increasing the runoff coefficient from 30%-40% to an alarming 80%-90%. This has reduced the city's ability to recharge groundwater, leading to the depletion of groundwater levels and the failure of bore wells, compounding the city's water problems," said the expert.

Way out

Kumar said, "Bengaluru's future depends on a overhaul of its urban planning and infrastructure. Without urgent and effective action, the city's flooding crisis will only worsen."

Communities cry for upkeep of Halanayakanahalli Lake

Communities along Sarjapur Road, including Sunny Brooks, Rainbow Drive, and Countryside Layout have been hit hard by severe flooding following days of relentless rainfall. The breach of Halanayakanahalli Lake caused flooding into roads and homes, leaving residents trapped and forcing rescue operations with boats and tractors. Residents are now demanding urgent and long-term action to clear the drains, remove illegal structures, and rejuvenate Halanayakanahalli Lake to avoid future catastrophes.

Many residents recounted horrifying experiences. "The water came in so fast, and before we knew it, our entire area was submerged. Children couldn't go to school, and we were completely cut off. If there was a medical emergency, we would have been helpless. We have senior citizens here, and this is the worst situation we've ever faced," said a resident from Sunnybrooks.

The flooding, worsened by blocked stormwater drains and unauthorised shops in Kaikondrahalli, left many angry and frustrated. Residents also pointed to Halanayakanahalli Lake's neglected state as a major contributor to the crisis. The lake, filled with silt and debris, has lost much of its water-holding capacity, leading to frequent overflows during heavy rains. "For years, we've been requesting that the lake be desilted, but no one listens. If the lake is rejuvenated, it can hold more water, which would prevent flooding and also help with groundwater recharge. We depend on water tankers, and rejuvenating the lake would ensure a more sustainable supply for the entire area."

The situation worsened due to the blockage of a crucial drainage channel between Halanayakanahalli Lake and Saul Kere, which led to even more severe waterlogging. "This channel gets blocked every time it rains, and the authorities have done nothing to fix it," said a resident from Sunny Brooks community.

Despite some action after persistent follow-ups by residents, including breaking open the blocked drain on Tuesday, the flooding continued due to incessant rainfall. "The authorities do temporary fixes every time there's flooding, but they never follow up to complete the work. We need a permanent solution before more lives are affected," said a resident from Rainbow Drive.

—Iffath Fathima

Political view: apathy or empathy?

Citizens have raised concerns about the absence of politicians at the flood sites, questioning why they seem focused on bypolls instead. In response to the opposition's criticism regarding his lack of visits to the affected areas despite the severe damage caused by the rains in Bengaluru, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar stated, "It's not just about my visit. What's important is that the work gets done. While my presence may attract publicity, our priority is on effective solutions. We have established a committee to identify areas facing these challenges and to provide permanent resolutions." He added, "Our officials have been working around the clock and have been in the rain-affected areas for the past 48 hours. I don't want to embarrass them by making a visit at this critical time."

Meanwhile, the Janata Dal Secular (JDS) on Tuesday criticised Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DyCM. In a post on X, JDS wrote, "Welcome to Brand Bengaluru! Where a physically challenged woman falling into a pothole during heavy rains is just another day in paradise. While @siddaramaiah and @DKShivakumar keep patting themselves on the back for their 'visionary' governance, the city's crumbling infrastructure speaks volumes. BBMP's talent for transforming roads into death traps is unparalleled. Bravo for setting new standards of neglect and irresponsibility."

600 families asked to relocate temporarily

In Chowdeshwari Nagar, rainfall has reached 150 mm, with some areas experiencing up to 300 per cent more precipitation than usual. The state government has requested residents of certain apartments to evacuate for eight days. Approximately 600 families from Kendriya Vidyalaya and Tata Nagar are being moved. The DyCM announced on Tuesday, "Instructions have been issued to close some apartment complexes in Bengaluru for eight days." He stated that five teams from the SDRF and NDRF have been deployed to provide assistance.

INBRIEF

Lakes are overpouring

Many lakes in Bengaluru are now at their full capacity. In all, five lakes in the south zone, six in the RR Nagar, six in the Yelahanka, and three in the Dasarahalli are filled. Water from Jakkur and Yelahanka Lakes has overflowed into residential areas.
Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said, "Monday night's rain resembled a cloudburst. The downpour caused the Doddabommasandra Lake, which had filled up after 17 years, to overflow." Since the lakes are interconnected, filling of one lake leads to overflow of downstream lakes, said BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath.

Siblings feared to have drowned in the lake

Authorities launched a search operation on Tuesday and recovered the bodies of a brother and sister suspected to have drowned in a lake. The incident occurred on Monday evening when 13-year-old Srinivas and 11-year-old Mahalakshmi went to fetch water from the lake near their home in Kengeri. According to police, while playing by the water, Mahalaksmi slipped and fell in. Srinivas attempted to rescue her but ended up drowning alongside his sister when no one responded to his cries for help.

Building collapse: 1 dead, many feared trapped

KAUSHIK JN

A construction labourer, identified as Armaan, lost his life and 14 others sustained injuries after a multi-story under-construction building collapsed in Anjanadri Layout, Babusapalya, on Tuesday. Police authorities have confirmed that 14 workers have been rescued from the debris and rushed to nearby hospitals. The search continues for five more individuals who are believed to be trapped in the rubble. At the time of the collapse, there were around 20 workers inside the building. The victims were reportedly taking shelter from the rain when the incident occurred.

Varahi Reservoir to reach its full capacity

The Mani (Varahi) Reservoir, which has filled to capacity only three times in the past 35 years, is on track to reach full capacity this year. As of Monday, the water level stood at 593.34 metre (29.13 TMC), just 1.02 mt (12 feet) shy of its maximum capacity of 594.36 mt (31.10 TMC). With another week of heavy rainfall expected, it is projected to fill within the next 10 days. Heavy rainfall in the Tungabhadra irrigation region has led to a substantial rise in inflow to the TB Dam. The Tungabhadra Reservoir, crucial for farmers in Kalyana Karnataka, has seen elevated inflow levels over the past few days. On Monday, the inflow reached 31,000 cusecs, resulting in a total outflow of 49,000 cusecs through 10 crest gates, with 35,000 cusecs released into the river.

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I, SRINIVASA SETTY VENKATA SATHYA SUBRAMANYA GUPTA R/at No.12 Srinivasa Mahal, Vasavi Temple Road, V.V.Puram, Bangalore- 560004 have changed my minor Son's Name from AGASTYA SUBRAMANYA GUPTA to AGASTYA GUPTA vide affidavit dated: 19/10/2024 Before Notary R.Basavaraja Bangalore.

I, (OLD NAME) Aarty Sitang W/o NO. 4377529X, Nk Tarung Sitang,SM Resident of Vill-Rengo Po/Ps- boleng, Dist-Siang, . Arunachal Pradesh, 791102, have changed my name from (OLD NAME) Aarty Sitang to (NEW NAME) Aarty Mize vide affidavit dated 18.10.2024 sworn before notary Shivakumar M.N., Bangalore.

I, Jyotsna Pandurang Mokhasi R/a at S-6, Neeraj Homes, Near Rainbow School, Kereguddada halli, Bengaluru-560090 I have changed my name to Rashmi R Joshi.Vide Affidavit Dated on 22/10/2024 Sworn Before Notary Kodi Nagappaya Bangalore

I, Saavitri Gaandla W/o Gundu Rao Padatare R/o No.38, ward No.33, Shivalinga, Ballari 583104 present camp at Bengaluru have changed my name Savithri Gandala Affidavit Dt.22/10/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Girija Sudhir Harwalker R/a at No 01, 5th Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru-560018 I have changed my name to Girija Keeli. Vide Affidavit Dated on 22/10/2024 Sworn Before Notary Kodi Nagappaya Bangalore

I Sailaja Tatineni Narendra Babu W/O, Narendra Babu Vadlamudi R/o D704,mantri Serenity,kanakapura Road,doddakallasandra,bengaluru 560062 have changed my name to Shailaja Babu Vadlamudi.

I, Shridhar Hegde R/o #311,8th Main Rd,M S Ramaiahlyt,Nagasandra Post, Bengaluru-560073 have changed my minor son's name from Ketan Hegde to Ketan Shridhar Hegde for all purposes

I, Amuda Devarajan R/a Ft No.B-903, Vaishnavi Nakshatra Apartment, Tumkur Road, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru-560022. Have Changed To AMUDHA MOHAN KUMAR DEVARAJAN. Vide Affidavit Date: 22.10.2024. Sworn Before Notary: Devaraja.E.

I Dinesh kumar S/o Shankar lal R/o kagmala rajsthan have change my name from Dinesh kumar To Dinesh S Gehlot for All future purpoes

I, Ramesh Kunnaram Paliya R/o #206,sree Eshwaranilaya, silicon Sun City,Heelalige Chandapura,Anekal B'luru Rural-560099 have changed my name to Ramesh Kunaram Paliya for all purposes

I UJJWAL KOTECHA S/O. Abhaya Kumar Kotecha Residing at Bengaluru have changed my name from UJJAWAL KOTECHA to UJJWAL KOTECHA for all future purposes

I, Premakumari Kodandaraju w/o Subbaraju Mummalaraju R/o No 27/1, 19th cross, 5th phase Bangalore-560078 have changed my name to Prema Kodandaraju for all Purposes.

I Mukunda Gopinath S/O. Nagaraj Gopinath R/o No 60, Nagavasuki, 3rd Cross, Tilak Nagar, Shimoga - 577201. Karnataka have changed my name to Mukund Gopi.

I, Manjesh R/o 73, 3rd Cross, Yellamma Temple Rd,Gottigere B'luru-560083 have changed my name Minor Son's Name from Veekshit manjesh to Veekshith Manjesh for all purposes.

I, Priyanka W/o Dhanush R Babu R/o #20 Sri Durga 2nd Cross 7th Main Bhage Gowda layout B'lore-560062 have changed my name to Priyanka Dhanush Babu.

I Hemalatha Dinesh Babu D/O, Mohan Rao Gali Ramanaidu R/o 303, 4th Main, Duo City Layout, Basapura, Bangalore 560100 have changed my name to Hemalatha Gali Mohanrao.

LOST & FOUND

ದಾಖಲೆ ಕಳೆದಿದೆ

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Theft modus operandi: Plan & execute

CRIME FILES

Closer look at common pattern across multiple thefts in city

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Police put jewellery recovered from thieves on display (file photo)

The spate of organised and calculated thefts recorded in the city point to an alarming trend.

In one such case, a resident of Vishwapriya Layout in the Begur Police Station limits reported that his goods auto rickshaw had been stolen from outside his house. The theft, which occurred overnight on February 14, led to a police investigation after a formal complaint was filed on February 15. The complainant had rented out his autorickshaw to another driver, who parked it near Begur post office, only to find it missing the next morning.

After an investigation, the police found that the stolen goods auto, along with seven two-wheelers, had been hidden near Nice Road Bridge in AECS Layout. The suspect, arrested on September 29, confessed to the thefts during interrogation. Upon further interrogation, the individual revealed that seven stolen two-wheelers were hidden in an empty lot in AECS Layout. These vehicles were seized on September 30.

In total, one goods auto rickshaw and seven two-wheelers, valued at ₹6.5 lakh, were recovered. The arrest has led to the resolution of seven vehicle theft cases across various police stations, including Begur, Parappa Agrahara, Mico Layout, Kalasipalya, Kumbalgodu, and Attibele.

Friend turns thief

A man filed a complaint against his childhood friend, accusing him of stealing 83 grams of gold jewelry from his home, in Puttenahalli. The accused had borrowed gold ornaments in March 2022 due to financial trouble. He promised to return the borrowed items but on April 13, 2023, he vanished, leaving the victim's home with additional gold jewelry and cutting off all communication.

Police tracked the suspect, who was found to be an undertrial prisoner in Kolar District Jail for another case. The accused confessed to stealing the gold ornaments, which he sold at shops in Punganur Town and Vikota in Andhra Pradesh.

2-wheelers stolen

Two men were arrested for stealing five two-wheelers, said to be worth around ₹1.51 lakh. A resident of Vinayaka Nagar filed a complaint with Puttenahalli Police on September 19, reporting the theft of his two-wheeler. The theft occurred within a 45-minute window.

Following a lead, the police apprehended the two suspects on October 2, near Meenakshi Temple on Bannerghatta Road. The accused also led the police to a vacant BBMP land near Sarakki Lake, where they had hidden four additional stolen two-wheelers.

Most arrests lead police to crack down on several cases, indicating organised groups are at work

Jewelry heist: Five Arrested

Five individuals broke into a house in Begur and made off with 74 grams of gold ornaments, a silver chain, and a mobile phone from the children's room, in March this year. The house's occupants were unaware of the intrusion until the next morning. The police tracked the thieves through informants and discovered that the gang of five members managed to steal 308 grams of gold jewelry, three mobile phones, and two two-wheelers, all worth ₹22.86 lakh. A case was registered at Begur police station.

On August 30, they arrested a suspect near Pillaganahalli Poultry Farm Gate, recovering one of the stolen mobile phones. During interrogation, the suspect confessed to the crime and revealed the involvement of four accomplices. He also disclosed that the stolen jewelry had been hidden and partially sold to a shop.

The police took the suspect into custody for 10 days and intensified their search for the other accomplices. Three more accomplices were arrested September 18, two in Dharmapuri, Tamil Nadu, and another in Naganathapura. All three confessed to their involvement.

Gold, silver worth ₹12 lakh recovered

The Amruthahalli Police have arrested a repeat offender involved in three house thefts, recovering gold and silver worth ₹12 lakh. The accused, residing in Venkate Gowda Layout, had earlier lodged a complaint on February 28, after returning from Dharmasthala to find his house burgled.

The police, during their investigation, arrested the culprit on October 11, at Kempapura Main Road. He confessed to stealing gold and silver items from multiple homes in Amruthahalli. Further investigation revealed that the stolen goods were sold to jewelry shops in Nelamangala, Badarahalli, and Tamil Nadu.

By October 14, 160 grams of gold and 1 kg of silver were seized from the accused's associates and jewellery shop owners. The accused was produced before the court and remanded to judicial custody on October 16.

IN BRIEF

Kambala is commercial, not cultural in B'luru, High Court told

The High Court, while hearing a plea by People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals India (PETA) to stay a bull race event called 'Kambala' scheduled for October 26 in Bengaluru, questioned whether holding the event would constitute cruelty to animals. The plea also sought to prevent the state government from granting permission for bull races, whether called Kambala or otherwise, anywhere outside the rural areas of Dakshina Kannada and Udupi, where Kambala is traditionally held as part of the local culture.

Senior advocate Dhyan Chinnappa, representing PETA, argued before a division bench comprising Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind that these races can be held in Udupi and Dakshina Kannada regions as per the Supreme Court order, which allows them to be held where it is the "tradition and culture of that place", but not in Bengaluru. He pointed out that the authorities have decided to hold the event in Bengaluru and Shivamogga, which would require the animals to be transported from Dakshina Kannada, 300 km away, in trucks for over eight hours, which he argued would be "cruelty".

Chinnappa emphasised that while they cannot object to the sport being held in Dakshina Kannada and Udupi, as it is part of the culture of that area, it should not be allowed in other parts. The high court asked whether holding the event would amount to cruelty to animals. Chinnappa said the event in Bengaluru is a commercial activity, with tickets being sold, and over one lakh people expected to attend, and urged that a traditional event not be turned into a commercial show. —BMB

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ವಿಶೇಷ ಸೂಚನೆ: ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಪಡೆದ ನಂತರ ೩೦ ನಿಮಿಷ ಕಾಫಿ, ಟೀ ನೀರು ಮತ್ತು ಆಹಾರವನ್ನು ಸೇವಿಸಬಾರದು.
ಪಾರ್ಶ್ವವಾಯು ಪೀಡಿತರಿಗೆ ದೇಶೀಯ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ

ಸೂಚನೆ : ಪಾರ್ಶ್ವವಾಯುವಿಗೆ ಗುರಿಯಾಗಿ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದಿಂದ ಮೇಲ್ಪಟ್ಟ ವಯೋವೃದ್ಧಿಯಾಗಿ ಪಾಂಡುಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಔಷಧಿಯನ್ನು ಸೇವಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗುವಂತಹ ರೋಗಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ಈ ಚಿಕಿತ್ಸೆ ಮಾಡಲಾಗುವುದು.

Foam alarm at Chandapura Lake

Garima Prasher
garima.prasher@timesofindia.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Scene at Chandapura Lake

Bengaluru's list of frothing lakes keeps getting bigger every year. The latest to join this list is Chandapura Lake in Anekal.

Lake walkers on Tuesday morning were in for a shock when they found the waterbody foaming and frothing, similar to Varthur Lake a few years ago.

"I was surprised to see white foam on the lake's surface during my morning walk on Tuesday. I was shocked as the issue of pollution in this lake was taken up by NGT and instructions were issued to restore the water body. This frothing episode only goes on to show that no action has been taken by authorities in reviving the lake," said a lake walker.

In October 2022, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) slapped an environmental compensation of Rs 500 crore on Karnataka government for its failure to control pollution in and around Chandapura.

The tribunal had then observed that the massive damages caused to the waterbody are due to the inaction of the authorities concerned. It called the state's failure to maintain the lake a clear breach of 'Public Trust Doctrine' and thus held the state government accountable.

NGT's order also specified restoration measures of the lake, including biological steps such as planting of suitable tree saplings, shrubs and grass in consultation with the Karnataka Forest Department, engineering such as gabion structures, check dams and gully plugging at the micro-watershed level to stabilise the catchment ecology alongside measures for upgrading the water quality of the lake at least to 'C' category.

The restoration was to be supervised by a monitoring committee, headed by the chairman of Karnataka Wetland Authority and restoration measures should preferably be implemented within six months.

"We could see a large quantity of froth near the discharge point of Chandapura. The water body is still receiving a lot of pollutant from lakes upstream such as Heelalige Lake. The restoration work taken up by the authorities is not up to the mark. A couple of months back, they created Lake Bund that was higher than Lake water level. When we pointed at the fault, they reduced the height," alleged another walker at Chandapura Lake.

Notably, the lake was inspected by Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar B khandre earlier this year. After inspecting the water body, Khandre directed Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) to expedite commissioning of the Sewage Treatment Plant in the catchment of the lake ahead of NGT's deadline.

Chai-Time

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

3+{5−[14+(8)]+8} = ?

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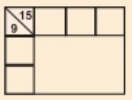
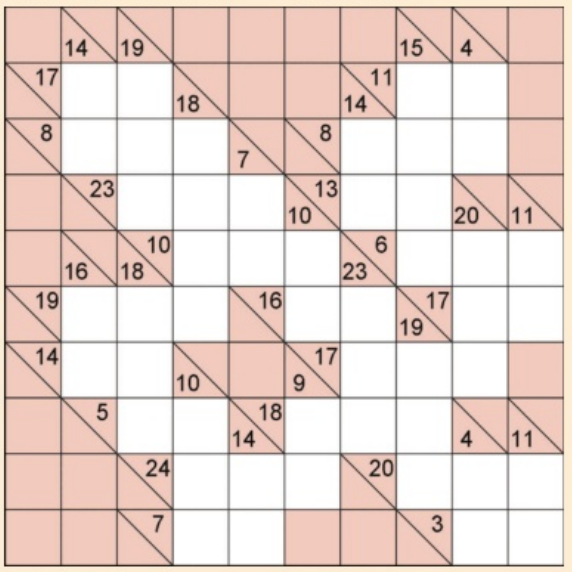
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

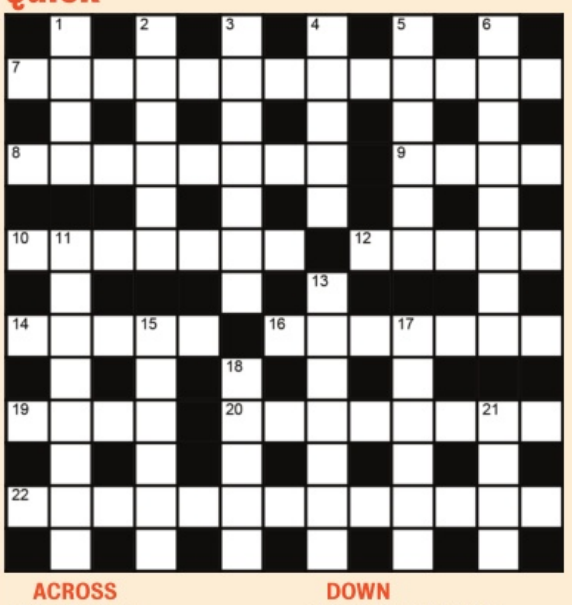


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Big fire (13)
8 Barbarous or cruel act (8)
9 Take it easy (4)
10 Diplomatic or discrete? (7)
12 Words of a song (5)
14 Mistakes (5)
16 Conscience-stricken (7)
19 Wading bird (4)
20 Field gun (8)
22 Rebuilt (13)

DOWN

1 Purse lips sulkily (4)
2 Exertion or attempt (6)
3 Drain of energy (7)
4 Entreats or begs (5)
5 Floor (6)
6 Either time when the sun is furthest from equator (8)
11 Extemporized (2-6)
13 Cinema in the Banashankari area (7)
15 Engine part (6)
17 Garrets (6)
18 ___ out: Wind down (5)
21 On the level (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: D EQUALS T

DBJ AUFKRFAWJ ATUD GO OTFDB FC ATDFJKRJ.

Linemaro

What does it feel like to be the most beautiful girl in the room?

Mindchow

Be a first rate version of yourself, than a second rate version of somebody else

Joke of the day

What do you call a loony spaceman?
An astronut

Loop

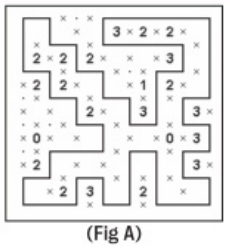
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

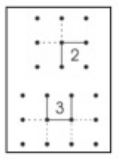
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

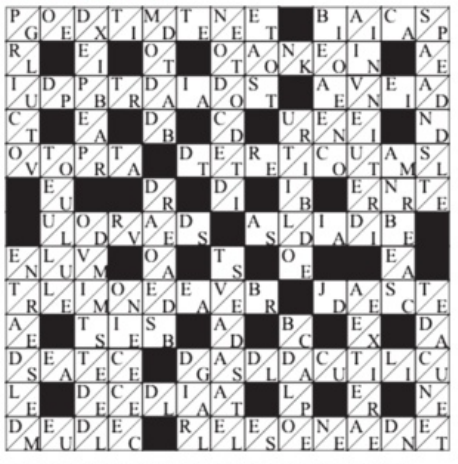


(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed

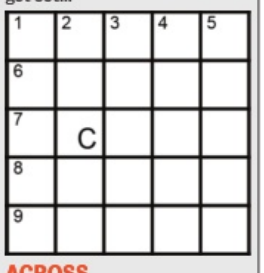
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

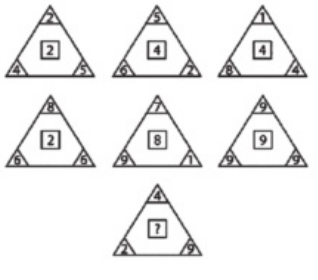
1 Clads; 6 My ace;
7 CIG an; 8 Nu Ale;
9 Oiler

DOWN

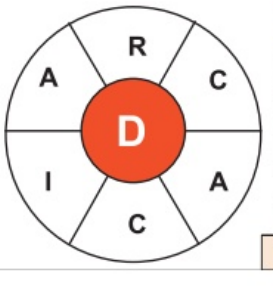
1 Arcus; 2 CC lye;
3 Naomi; 4 Liana;
5 Ledge

Mensapuzzle

Can you determine the logic used in the triangles below to find the missing number in the last triangle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

04 Average; 05 Good; 07 Outstanding

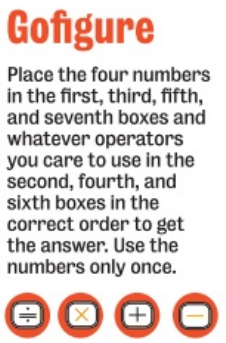
SudokuChallenge

7		5				9	2	1
4	2		3					
					9	5		
				7			9	
	9		6		1		8	
	1			5				
		4	5					
					4		1	6
2	7	3				4		8

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

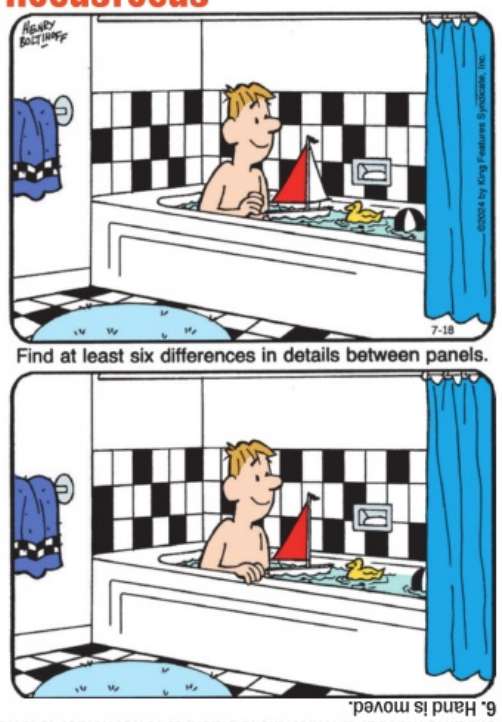


Easy = 15
3 5 8 9

Medium = 19
1 4 7 8

Hard = 73
1 9 9 7

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

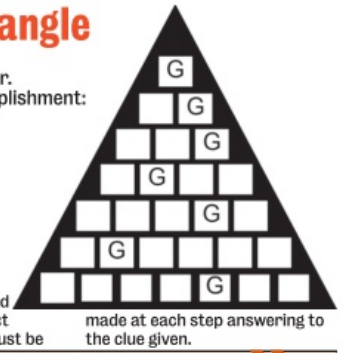
Differences: 1. Sail is missing. 2. Soap holder is higher. 3. Ball is moved. 4. White tile is black. 5. Towel holder is lower. 6. Hand is moved.

Riddler

A 3-letter word has been taken out of each of the following words. Can you figure it out?
???CH S???HE ???NAP LO???E

Alpha triangle

1 Gram, abbr.
2 For example, abbr.
3 Academic accomplishment: abbr.
4 Elderly
5 Proverb
6 Schedule
7 Ran things

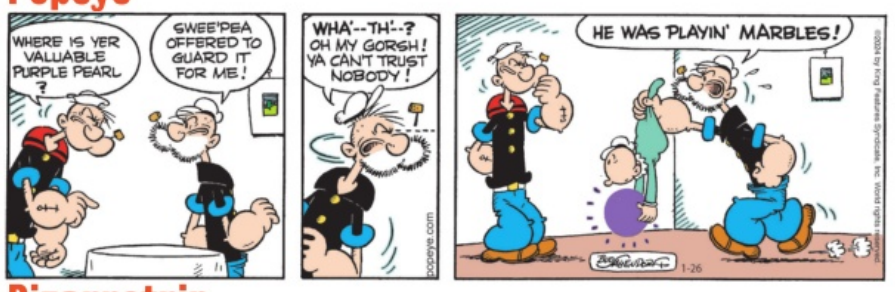


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


WHERE IS YER VALUABLE PURPLE PEARL ?
SWEE'PEA OFFERED TO GUARD IT FOR ME!
WHA'--TH'--? OH MY GORSH! YA CAN'T TRUST NOBODY!
HE WAS PLAYIN' MARBLES!
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Wayno & 3 Piers. 7-18-24
I'm looking for a job that doesn't involve lifting anything larger than me.
LITTLE FREE LIBRARIAN
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

Crankshaft

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, situations are under control, and you may feel better. You might plan for overseas travel, and your network could assist you on the work front. There may be an increase in domestic harmony. You are likely to feel more creative and might bring home artifacts or other decorative items for your family or office. You may also plan for movies or other entertainment with friends or family.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
At the beginning of the week, you can expect financial gains. You'll manage to balance your earnings and expenses, boosting your bank balance. You are likely to perform better in your job, and your boss may entrust you with new responsibilities in the form of promotions. You may recover money owed to you by lenders, and you will have control over your opponents and hidden enemies. Health is likely to improve.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may plan to renovate your house and buy items to enhance its appearance, maintaining your social status. Harmony with your spouse is likely, which will bring peace to your domestic life. Disputes with friends, co-workers, and partners may be resolved. You may also receive good news regarding legal matters.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon. You may feel healthy, and any old health issues could be cured now. Stuck funds might be recovered, and you may consider applying for a loan to purchase luxury items.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by Jupiter, which may boost your confidence. You will be able to make important decisions decisively and seize opportunities without hesitation. You may likely spend money on family and friends. Love birds may enjoy happy moments together. Job seekers might find a suitable position with the help of friends.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you might feel dull and not enjoy the day as much. Arrogance may affect both your professional and domestic life. Internally, you may feel a lack of confidence, which could prevent you from being creative at work.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may feel energetic and perform well at work. Your hard work will pay off, boosting your confidence. Property-related disputes with siblings are likely to be resolved. A meeting with an influential person may help boost your business.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which brings happiness. You are likely to receive a good opportunity through your communication skills. You will be polite with those around you, and you may make difficult business decisions with the help of your colleagues. This could increase your prestige in society.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, making it a good day for you. You will have good vitality and enjoy your work. Romantic moments with your spouse could improve domestic harmony. You might plan to start a new project, and your perfectionism could help you design a solid plan. Job seekers are likely to find a suitable job. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on trivial topics.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may feel disappointed. You are advised to control your arrogance; otherwise, you might face losses due to careless speech. Love birds should be cautious during discussions, as it could affect the relationship.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today, you may find peace of mind. You might plan to invest capital in your business, increasing liquidity. Your earnings may boost your savings. Romantic moments with your spouse could enhance family harmony. Singles are likely to find a suitable match, and love birds may decide to get married.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you are blessed by a positive moon, and your losses may turn into profits. Your boss is likely to appreciate your work, and there could be a transfer associated with a promotion. Your opponents and hidden enemies will be under control. Singles and love birds may make important decisions about marriage with the support of relatives or friends.

Sanjanaa V, Bengaluru

Riddhi, Bengaluru

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Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
=3+{5−[22]+8}
=3+{−17+8}
=3+{−9}
=−6

BULL'S EYE
aold, aorld, arld, card, CARDIAC, cicada, raid

STRIKE OUT

QUICK

MENSA PUZZLE
The missing number is 6. To arrive at the middle number in each triangle, add the three outside numbers, then add the sum of that number's two digits.

QUOTE UNCODE
The principle part of faith is patience.

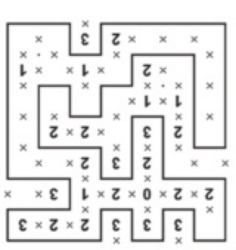
SUDOKU

2	7	3	1	9	6	4	5	8
9	5	8	2	3	4	7	1	6
1	6	4	5	8	7	2	3	9
8	1	2	9	5	3	6	7	4
5	9	7	6	4	1	3	8	2
3	4	6	8	7	2	1	9	5
6	8	1	7	2	9	5	4	3
4	2	9	3	1	5	8	6	7
7	3	5	4	6	8	9	2	1

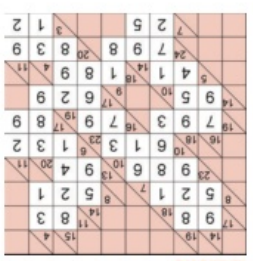
ALPHA TRIANGLE
G, E8, Deg, Aged, Adage, Agenda, Managed.

GO FIGURE
Easy
3 + 9 − 5 + 8 = 15
Medium
8 + 7 + 4 x 1 = 19
Hard
9 x 9 − 1 − 7 = 73

LOOP



KAKURO



FAST FIVE

S	C	A	L	D
C	Y	M	A	E
A	C	I	N	G
U	L	N	A	E
R	E	O	I	L

RIDDLER
Cat; Catch, scathe, catnap & locate

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Ekta Kapoor on POCSO case
"Not involved in day-to-day operation": Ekta Kapoor issues statement amid case filed under POCSO Act for ALT Balaji's web series 'Gandi Baat'

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In the driver's seat

Kriti talks of how from not having many options, now she can choose films she wants to do

After almost a decade in the industry as an actress, after starting her career with 'Heropanti', Kriti Sanon has now turned producer. Her maiden venture 'Do Patti' which she has co-produced with Kanika Dhillon is now set for release on OTT. During a chat with ETimes, Kriti spoke about her journey so far and what's most gratifying about 'Do Patti'.

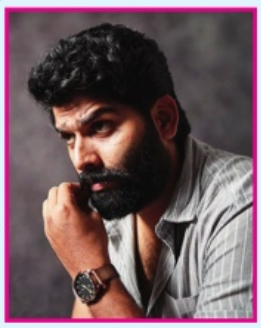
Ask her if it's gratifying to reach this point, after starting out as an outsider who has slowly tried to make place for herself within the industry, and here's what she has to say. "I've slowly understood my process without trying to limit it. I've understood what works and how I can make it better. Initially you don't have so many opportunities. Slowly with time, success and experience, you get more opportunities. As they opportunities get layered and deeper, you explore yourself more as an actor. I had this conscious effort of growing and evolving and once I've done something," says Kriti.

She adds how she also wanted to create an opportunity for herself with 'Do Patti'. Kriti says, "I almost created this opportunity for myself not just as a producer but also an actor. I did Mimi and post that wanted to find something deeper and I didn't find something like that for years, something intense and in that space. Having said that, I loved some scripts which I did. But I wasn't getting anything. That's when I called up Kanika and I also told her I wanted to support stories and make films." She said she needs to put herself into challenging roles for her to excite herself to be on the set. **—ETimes**

SANDALWOOD
SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Villain to protagonist

Suchan Shetty, who hails from Kundapura has been associated with Sandalwood for more than 12 years, is excited about his latest movie Ondu Tatkalika Payana (OTP) which is scheduled to be released shortly. The trailer of OTP has already created a buzz. The movie is bankrolled by music director Ravi Basrur and directed by Karthik.



"OTP is my maiden movie as a protagonist. I played the villain in Kadal and acted as a forest guard in Kantara, which was directed by Rishab Shetty. I am very happy to get the opportunity to play the protagonist with OTP. The movie is an anthology of three stories and my character in the movie connects to the three stories," said Suchan.

He said that Basrur also plays a character in the movie. "I met director Karthik during the shooting of Kadal, which was directed by Ravi Basrur. I have been associated with him for more than six years. OTP conveys a message on the importance of hard work and perseverance. It also motivates the audiences to have focus and dedication to achieve something in life," he said.

The movie's trailer was released recently. It highlights the struggles of an aspiring director to realise his dreams. "I expect my long journey with Sandalwood will pay off with OTP," he said.

Song released

The video of a song from the film Jalandhar was launched recently. The lyrics of the song - Huttuththaa Naavu – are penned by Manvasrhi Navalagunda. The hero of the film Pramod Shetty and rest of the team were present on the occasion. Pramod Shetty said that Step Up Lokesh narrated the script to him post the lockdown. "The script was very interesting. I told him that we will bankroll the movie if no producer comes forward. I also told him that I will direct the movie but needed some time. Later, Madan came forward to invest money. I play a police officer in this movie," said Shetty.

He said that he would not consider himself the hero in the movie. "I consider all the actors of the movie as heroes. The movie showcases Kanakapura culture and traditions," he said.

Step Up Lokesh said he hails from Kanakapura and that it was a story narrated by his grand-mother that inspired him to write the script. Director Vishnu V Prasanna said the movie conveys a message to society on the precautions to be taken while going on trips to rivers and lakes. "We are planning to release the movie next month," he said.

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exclusive pearl white dual tone body colour
rear view camera

Renault Night & Day Limited Edition is available in Kiger on single variant in a single-colour option pearl white with mystery black roof for a limited period, till stocks last. *the above-mentioned price of ₹6 74 990 is for the RXL MT variant of the Kiger and is exclusive of all local taxes. please contact your nearest dealership for the price of RXL AMT variant. ^accessories shown as part of the Renault Night & Day Limited Edition are exclusive to the edition and are covered by warranty for 2 years or 50 000 km, whichever is earlier (same as the vehicle). any other accessory purchased in addition to these, will be subject to standard accessory warranty of 1 year or 20 000 km. pearl white body colour is also exclusive to the Renault Night & Day Limited Edition only. the registration plate is licensed with Renault Group Paris. Renault India Pvt. Ltd. reserves the right to sale of Renault Kiger in India. due to printing limitations, the colours that appear may differ slightly from the actual paint or upholstery colours. please contact your nearest dealer for the latest information. all rights are reserved. the price/features mentioned in the advertisement may vary depending on the model/variant and features in the car. corporate/PSU/defence personnel/government employee/professional benefits applicable on each model are based on submission of required proof by the customer. price valid on the date of purchase. for detailed terms and conditions, please visit www.renault.co.in.

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